

From: Kurtis Behn
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/16/02 12:45pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

In the interest of public comment:

I think the only way that true competition in the interest of the consumer can be returned to the OS/Office Software industries would be to publicize and standardize the API and file formats. The only useful punishment for Microsoft's wrongdoings would be to hamstring it's power embodied by it's intellectual property. But beyond this sort of childish retribution, the only way the software industry can truly benefit the consumer (in the spirit of processors and AMD/Intel) would be take the 'switching costs' out of the equation and allow for the competition in the industry to center around providing benefits to the user not elbowing (and/or strong-arming) one's way through backroom deals.

Thank you
Kurt